

Amendment dated: July 1, 2005

Application Serial No.: 10/769,902

Attorney Docket No. 032028-0311140 (23439-099-401)

In Response to Office Action mailed January 3, 2005

REMARKS

In response to the Non-Final Office Action (hereinafter "Office Action"), mailed January 3, 2005, claims 21, 26, and 29 have been amended, and claims 23-25, 28, and 30 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-20 and 22 were cancelled in previous amendments. No claims have been newly added. Therefore, claims 21, 26-27, 29, and 31-32 are pending. Support for the instant amendments is provided throughout the as-filed Specification. Thus, no new matter has been added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following comments, allowance of all the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 21, 24, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,025,920 to Dec in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,831,267 to Jack *et al.* ("Jack"). *See* Office Action, pg. 2, ¶2. Claims 26, 27, 29, and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over the combination of Dec and Jack, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,570,655 to Schiefer *et al.* ("Schiefer"). *See* Office Action, pg. 4, ¶3. The Examiner has also indicated that claims 23, 28, 30 and 32 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. *See* Office Action, pg. 6, ¶4.

Applicants disagree with the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections set forth by the Examiner. However, solely in an effort to expedite prosecution, the claims have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. As such, allowance

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of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Date: July 1, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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